GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:407
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2007
EDUCATIONALLY BACKWARD DISTRICTS
Chinta Mohan Dr. ;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan)

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 350 districts in the country are identified by University Grants Commission as educationally backward;

(b) if so, the number of such districts and grounds on which these districts are identified as educationally backward;

(c) the targets fixed for promoting education in these districts; and

(d) the time frame fixed to achieve these targets?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (d): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has identified , based on a Study Commissioned by it, 376 educationally Backward Districts which have Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER), less than the national average. The University Grants Commission provides Special Development Grant for universities in Backward Areas. It is also proposed to assist State Governments, to incentivise them to establish one college in each district, which has a low Gross Enrolment Ratio, during the XI Plan, subject to availability of resources.